

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 08430 171717Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05 OES-03 TRSE-00 IGA-01

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R 171543Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1321

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 8430

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E. O. 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, XF

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST: MOSCOW WAITING FOR WASHINGTON

REF: MOSCOW 8395

1. IN THREE SEPARATE INSTANCES DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS SOVIET SOURCES HERE HAVE INDICATED TO U.S. CORRESPONDENTS THAT FURTHER ME DEVELOPMENTS NOW DEPEND ON WASHINGTON.

2. NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT CHRIS WREN TOLD US JUNE 17 THAT TWO "GOOD SOVIET SOURCES" PLAYED DOWN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 08430 171717Z

TALKS HE HAD WITH THEM THIS WEEK. ONE TOLD HIM MOSCOW HAS "PUT

IT ASIDE;" ANOTHER SAID "GENEVA IS NO LONGER ON THE AGENDA." IN THE SAME VEIN WELL-KNOWN SOVIET JOURNALIST VICTOR LOUS TOLD BALTIMORE SUN CORRESPONDENT PARKS THAT THE USSR HAS TO WAIT FOR THE U.S. TO KNOW HOW TO REACT.

3. COMMENT: ABOVE LINE, WHICH IS APPARENTLY BEING ACTIVELY PEDDLED AMONG WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS HERE, IS CONSISTENT BOTH WITH THE MINIMAL ATTENTION GIVEN ME DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE RECENT ROUND OF ELECTION SPEECHES (BREZHNEV DID NOT MENTION THE ME AT ALL) AND WITH THE FAIRLY LOW LEVEL PRESS COVERAGE OF THE ME IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS. THE SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO MOSCOW'S CURRENT LACK OF INTEREST IN PRESSING FOR GENEVA IS ALSO IN LINE WITH THE LOW KEY TREATMENT OF THE MEPC IN THE CPSU-ISRAELI COMMUNIST PARTY COMMUNIQUE, PRAVDA JUNE 16 (REFTEL), AND WITH THE TONED DOWN REFERENCES TO GENEVA IN OTHER RECENT PRESS COMMENTS.
MATLOCK

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